



PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY

CR-101 (June 2004)

(Implements RCW 34.05.310)

Do NOT use for expedited rule making

Agency: Department of Social and Health Services, Economic Services Administration

Subject of possible rule making:

The department is amending WAC 388-444-0030; Do I have to work to be eligible for Basic Food benefits if I am an able-bodied adult without dependents (ABAWD)? May include other related rules as appropriate.

Statutes authorizing the agency to adopt rules on this subject:

RCW 74.04.050; 74.04.055; 74.04.057; 74.04.500; 74.04.510; 74.08.090; 74.08A.120

Reasons why rules on this subject may be needed and what they might accomplish:

The Community Services Division is proposing to amend WAC 388-444-0030 to extend the statewide waiver that suspends eligibility time limits for non-exempt ABAWDS to September 30, 2012 (the current ABAWD waiver will end September 30, 2011). The department will amend rules for Basic Food consistent with approved waivers for ABAWD time requirements under 7 CFR 273.24(F)(2) and the USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) ABAWD waiver letter dated May 3, 2011..

Identify other federal and state agencies that regulate this subject and the process coordinating the rule with these agencies:

The United States Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) enforces the provisions of the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) as enacted in the 2008 Food and Nutrition Act and codified in the Code of Federal Regulations. The department will develop amendments to ABAWD rules that are consistent with the act, federal regulations, FNS administrative notices and interim guidance.

The state legislature authorizes the department to administer the Food Stamp Program (SNAP) and food assistance program for legal immigrants under RCW 74.04.500; 74.04.510; and 74.08A.120.

DSHS incorporates regulations from the federal agencies, exercises state options, and implements approved waivers of federal regulatory requirements by adopting administrative rules for food assistance programs administered under the Washington Basic Food program.

Process for developing new rule (check all that apply):

- ☐ Negotiated rule making
- ☐ Pilot rule making
- ☐ Agency study
- ☒ Other (describe)

DSHS welcomes the public to take part in developing the rules. Anyone interested should contact the staff person identified below. At a later date, DSHS will file a proposal with the Office of the Code Reviser with a notice of proposed rule making. A copy of the proposal will be sent to everyone on the mailing list and to anyone who requests a copy.

How interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before publication:

(List names, addresses, telephone, fax numbers, and e-mail of persons to contact; describe meetings, other exchanges of information, etc.) Contact: Bob Thibodeau, Program Manager

Economic Services Administration, Community Services Division

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DATE

June 1, 2011

NAME (TYPE OR PRINT)

Katherine Vasquez

SIGNATURE

TITLE

DSHS Rules Coordinator

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OFFICE OF THE CODE REVISER
STATE OF WASHINGTON
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